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MEMORANDUM

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S-8-10

TO: Mary Hagen  
Office of External Affairs

FROM: Gregory G. Oberley, Environmental Scientist  
Superfund Technical Section

SUBJECT: Interview with KPCW on the Richardson Flat Tailings -  
Park City, Utah

This was a live interview that was also taped for later  
brief news quotes.

The initial questions centered around Richardson Flat Tailings and the new HRS model that was used to score the site. I stated that the new model could evaluate human food chain targets and sensitive environments. Wetlands and a cold water fishery are present at the site.

The rest of the conversation dealt with the status of Prospector Square. I stated that the site was currently a low priority for evaluation as a NPL candidate. This is mainly due to the restrictions placed on excavation of tailings for planting lawns, trees or gardens to minimize resident's exposure to the tailings. Because these ordinances are in place EPA considers the site to be a lower priority for evaluation and will expend resources on other site where contamination is less controlled and poses a greater risk. I also noted that Silver Maple Claims adjacent to Prospector Square is being evaluated by EPA and that we are waiting for a final Site Investigation report to make a decision at that site.

I was then asked if the Prospector Square site score would be above the 28.5 cut off if evaluated under the new HRS. I stated that it is a very real possibility because of the new soil exposure pathway and people living on the tailings.

cc: Mike McCeney